Africa Clearing House Conference
25-26 May 2004, Luxembourg

Presentation by:

Canada

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Director Peacekeeping Policy

Strategic Interests in Africa

"There is progress in Africa, but enormous challenges remain"

- **Reverse the region's social and economic marginalisation from the rest of the world;**
- **Prevent further political and socio-economic upheaval**
- **Promote regional and local capacities and ownership to resolve peace and security challenges**
- **Canadian public expectation that their government will assist the disadvantaged, domestically and internationally.**

West Africa – ECOWAS Strategic Interests

- **Bilateral relations with West African states**
- **Membership in Francophonie and Commonwealth**
- **Promote peace and stability good governance, and combat HIV/AIDS.**
- **CDN$15 million to enhance individual and community security in ECOWAS member states through the Canada/West Africa Peace and Security Initiative (PSI).**
- **PSI has three components:**
  - **to enhance West Africa's capacity to undertake peace support operations (PSO); including support to the KAIPTC (Accra, Ghana) and l'École de maintien de la paix, (Bamako, Mali)**
  - **to help reduce small arms and light weapons (SALW) in the region; and**
  - **to promote police reform.**

Summary of Assistance – Aid – Developmental Programs: (Recent Past and Present)

- **At the 2002 G8 Kananaskis Summit, (Canada Fund for Africa and with increases in aid announced at the Monterrey Conference in Mexico), Canada had committed $6 billion in new and existing resources for Africa over a five-year period (2002-2007) including:**
  - **$500 million to support G8 Africa Action Plan and NEPAD (Canada Fund for Africa)**
  - **$4 million to support African Union**

Proposed – Future Engagement:

- **Support G8 Action Plan to Expand Global Peace Operations Capability**

- **Being determined through the International Policy Review**

Upcoming Conferences:

- **Africa Partnership Forum (Ongoing process)**
- **2004 G8 Sea Island Summit, “Africa Day,” 10 June 2004**
- **PM Blair’s Commission for Africa (Ongoing process)**
- **2005 UK Summit – Africa expected to be major focus**

Questions ?